

Serial No. 10/840,215  
Revised Reply to Office Action of May 24, 2007

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

Page 2

SEP 25 2007

I. Amendments to the Claims

21. (New) A fluid-tight conduit connection for coupling a male conduit and a receiver block for an air conditioning system, said fluid-tight conduit connection comprising:

a male conduit with an end and an outer wall, said male conduit having a radially outwardly extending annular flange formed thereon and an annular groove formed in said outer wall spaced from said end and said annular flange;

a receiver block having a first aperture formed therein adapted to receive said male conduit, said first aperture defining an inner surface of said receiver block, said inner surface of said receiver block which defines said first aperture having a flared shape to cooperate with said male conduit, said receiver block further having a second aperture formed therein;

a seal disposed between said annular flange of said male conduit and said inner surface of said receiver block to provide at least an axial seal between said male conduit and said inner surface of said receiver block;

a circumferential seal disposed within said annular groove of said male conduit to provide at least a radial seal between said male conduit and said inner surface of said receiver block; and

means for fastening said male conduit to said receiver block for securely holding said male conduit and said receiver block adjacent one another to engage said male conduit and said inner surface of said receiver block.

Serial No. 10/840,215  
Revised Reply to Office Action of May 24, 2007

Page 3

22. (New) The fluid-tight conduit connection as claimed in claim 21 wherein said fastening means further comprises an end-form block having a first aperture formed therein adapted to receive said male conduit, said end-form block abutting said annular flange on a side opposite the end of said male conduit, said end-form block having a second aperture formed therein.

23. (New) The fluid-tight conduit connection according to claim 22, wherein said fastening means is a threaded stud having a first end and a second end, said first end of said stud threadingly engaging the second aperture of said block, said second end of said stud being inserted through said second aperture of said end-form block and having a nut threadingly disposed thereon.

24. (New) The fluid-tight conduit connection according to claim 22, wherein there is a press fit between a wall forming the aperture of said end-form block and said outer wall of said male conduit.

25. (New) The fluid-tight conduit connection according to claim 21, wherein said seal disposed between said annular flange of said male conduit and said inner surface of said receiver block provides both an axial seal and a radial seal between said male conduit and said inner surface of said receiver block.

Serial No. 10/840,215

Page 4

Revised Reply to Office Action of May 24, 2007

26. (New) The fluid-tight conduit connection according to claim 22, wherein the portion of the inner diameter of said male conduit mounted within said end-form block and said receiver block is not smaller than the portion of the inner diameter of the male conduit extending from said end-form block.